

LOCAL RULES

Single Admissions to the Fairgrounds:

13 years and over:	\$8.00
Senior Citizens (60+):	\$6.00
6 - 12 years:	\$5.00
5 years and under:	free

NOTE: State Rules are a part of this booklet. Please be sure to read all applicable rules pertaining to your department, as changes have been made for 2009; some local rules will supersede State Rules.

Adult non-livestock entries in this Exhibitor Handbook are limited to Imperial County, Mexicali Valley residents and Snowbirds. All Junior classes in this Exhibitor Handbook are limited to residents of Imperial County, unless otherwise specified.

GENERAL RULES

1. Please read all rules and regulations carefully, since important changes have been made. Cash awards may be withheld if printed rules are not carefully complied with.
2. The Fair will pay cash awards only on those classes specified in the Exhibitor Handbook and only the judge's books will be the basis for cash award payments. Ribbons and exhibit tags are not acceptable. The Fair Board does not guarantee the payment of Special Premiums and awards offered in this list by merchants or breed associations. These prizes are usually secured by Heads of Departments with a promissory statement in good faith and must be contested for under these conditions.
3. Checks for entry fees are to be made payable to 45th DAA. Entry fees, entry forms and identification cards may be mailed to:

California Mid-Winter Fair & Fiesta
200 East Second Street
Imperial, CA 92251
4. County, district and state fairs cannot legally carry liability insurance covering exhibitors and/or their exhibits. Liability insurance is the responsibility and the discretion of the exhibitor. Therefore, it is suggested that exhibitors themselves consider taking out a liability policy covering themselves and their exhibit.
5. Each exhibitor will be solely responsible for any consequential or other loss, injury or damage done to or occasioned by, or arising from any animal or article exhibited by him, and shall indemnify the Fair Board, the Chief Executive Officer, or any other officer or employee of the 45th District Agricultural Association against all legal proceedings in regard thereto.
6. The Fair will take reasonable precautions to insure the safety of exhibits and property of every description entered for competition or display or any other purpose while anywhere on the grounds that shall be subject to control of the 45th District Agricultural Association, but the owners themselves must take risk of exhibiting them. In no case will the Fair Board be responsible in any way for any loss, damage, or injury of any character to any property, article or person, while same is on the fairgrounds or at any time or place, nor be liable for or make any payment for damage, loss or injury. The 45th District Agricultural Association will not be responsible for any loss or damage caused by or arising out of strikes, riots, lockouts, or acts of God.

7. Each exhibitor, in consideration of acceptance as a contestant, hereby agrees that his or her name and photograph may be used for publicity purposes.
8. The 45th District Agricultural Association reserves the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations and arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions and differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of, connected or incident to the Fair.

ENTRIES: GENERAL INFORMATION

9. Entries will be accepted upon the distribution of the Exhibitor's Handbook.
10. Entries close: ADULTS - Friday, January 23, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.; YOUTH - Friday, January 30, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. Entry fee and form must be received by the Fair office by that time. No late entries will be accepted. No postmarks will be accepted.
11. Entry fees will be charged in departments, where specified. Unless otherwise stated, entry fees must accompany entry forms when filed.
12. Refunds of any kind will be granted only upon approval of the Board of Directors. Requests for refunds must be made in writing to the Fair. Refunds may be made only because of sickness, accident, or death, cancellation of a class, or lack of exhibit space. Refunds will not be granted for entries that are "scratched". No refunds for less than \$5.00 will be considered.
13. Entries must be made on forms furnished by the Fair and can be obtained from the Fair office in writing or in person from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday or on the Fair website at www.ivexpo.com. Copies are accepted.
14. Non-livestock exhibits must have been made, collected, grown, or prepared solely by the exhibitor and completed within one year of the opening date of the Fair, unless specified different. Items must be clean and pressed, soiled articles will not be judged.
15. Management reserves the right to cancel entries and cash awards and request the removal of exhibits from the grounds where exhibitors are disorderly and endangering or disturbing the public or other exhibitors. Management reserves the right to reject any exhibit offered if it is objectionable in any way or if it requires an excessive amount of space.
16. Management reserves the right to put items in the appropriate category.
17. Entry forms must have the signature of the exhibitor if entering in Adult Divisions, or by the leader, agriculture instructor, parent/guardian if entering in Junior Divisions before they will be accepted by the Fair office.
18. Entries must remain on exhibit for the full duration of the Fair as specified in the Exhibitor Handbook. Any exceptions must be approved by management. All entries must be claimed by 10:00 a.m., Monday, March 9, 2009. The security of any items left after that time is not guaranteed. Items not claimed within **five (5) days** of that time will be forfeited.
19. Receipts should be kept with exhibitor in the event proof of entry is required.
20. All materials used in decorating stalls, pens, racks, exhibits or booths must be made from nonflammable materials or treated and maintained in a flame-retardant condition. Nonflammable materials must have approved seal prior to placement in barn areas.

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All decorations in small and large animal barns must be kept in place until 7 p.m. on Sunday, March 8th. Early tear down will result in \$100 fine.

21. If check for entry fee is refused by the bank, a penalty of \$20 per check must be paid prior to the judging of the entries. If the check is returned after the judging, any or all premiums won, will be held until the fees and penalty are paid.
22. All premium checks will be made payable to the exhibitor in whose name the entry was made and will be distributed with the return of the Fair entry or mailed to the address printed on the entry form. *Livestock leaders and advisors will be given checks for their club members for disbursement. Premium checks not cashed within 60 days of the date issued will be forfeited.*

LIVESTOCK ENTRIES

23. All livestock entry forms must be completely filled out with the correct breed, sex, date of birth, and date of ownership and registration information if appropriate. A separate form is required for each specie, including breeding and market.
24. Showmanship must be pre-entered with correct division and class number. Showmanship classes are only open to junior residents of Imperial County. **All exhibitors who wish to sell their market animal in the Junior Livestock Auction or Barn Sale must participate in Showmanship.**

CREDENTIALS

In compliance with Section 27.5 of the Budget Act of 1953, the Board of Directors has provided that Free Admission Tickets will be issued only as follows:

25. Public service groups or organizations receiving free exhibit space, shall be required to purchase credentials for all persons working the exhibit.
26. 4-H and FFA livestock exhibitors will be issued a season pass good for admission and parking. Credentials lost by exhibitors will only be replaced at a \$45 charge.
27. 4-H and FFA livestock exhibitor's parents may purchase **two (2)** season credentials good for admission to the Fair at a cost of **\$30.00 each**. Each family may purchase **one (1)** season parking pass at a cost of **\$15.00**. Additional daily tickets may be purchased during pre-sale at a discounted price. After February 28, 2008, tickets may be purchased at ticket booths at daily rate.
28. Each 4-H club/FFA Chapter may receive a maximum of 3 season credentials to be distributed at the discretion of the Club/Chapter.

DELIVERY CAR TICKETS

29. No persons or firm may conduct sales or any type of business on fairgrounds property without prior approval of Fair management. Those authorized shall purchase a special "Delivery" credential which sells for \$50.00. Deliveries shall only be made during times specified by Fair management.

FAIR PARKING

30. Special parking areas have been reserved and designated for all Fair participants. All participants are advised to utilize those areas so designated. Any vehicle obstructing fire lanes, drives, or streets shall be subject to towing at owners sole expense and responsibility.

31. The State Fire Marshall prohibits parking by exhibit buildings and other structures. Parking out of designated areas will not be tolerated.
32. Livestock trailers and storage trailers shall be allowed to park **ONLY** in **southeast corner of carnival parking lot**, adjacent to the cargo containers. Management will mark the exact spot. These trailers may be parked overnight, however, **NO CAMPING** will be allowed in these vehicles.
33. The Fair office will be accepting requests for full hook-ups and dry camping beginning January 5, 2009. The request form is available in the forms section of this handbook, online or at the Fair office. Incomplete request forms will not be accepted. Applicable fees must be paid at the time that the request is submitted – no exceptions. Dry Camping – \$150.00; Full Hook-ups – \$450.00. Move-in date: Monday, February 23; Move-out date: Monday, March 9.
34. Group Potlucks will only be allowed Monday through Thursday in designated areas assigned by Fair Management. A sign up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board next to the livestock office.
35. Speed Limit on all Fair Property is **5 MPH**. Failure to adhere to speed limit will result in loss of all parking permits and passes and may be subject to dismissal from the grounds.

AGE AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Adult Department:

36. The Adult Department is open to exhibitors of any age, including Imperial County Snow birds that are eligible to exhibit.

Junior Department:

37. FFA members may participate as members until the end of the calendar year following the year of graduation from high school.
38. 4-H Youth may participate as primary members upon entering kindergarten and continue through the time they complete third grade. Standard 4-H members are 9 years old or in the fourth grade and can exhibit as a member until the end of the calendar year in which the member reaches age 19. Members of the 4-H organization must abide by all rules of said organization, including limitation of primary members entering competitive events. Refer to State Rules.
39. GRANGE members may be eligible to exhibit as members if they are at least 5 years of age as of January 1, 2009 and until the end of the calendar year in which member reaches age 19.
40. INDEPENDENT JUNIOR exhibitors may enter any junior class, unless specified 4-H or FFA, under the following conditions:
 - A. Exhibitor must be at least 9 years of age as of January 1, 2009.
 - B. Exhibitor must not be older than 18 years of age January 1, 2009.
 - C. If open junior class is not available, junior exhibitors may enter an appropriate 4-H or FFA class if they meet all appropriate age and state rule requirements.
 - D. All independent exhibitors must provide certificate of general liability insurance (\$1,000,000 minimum) or purchase insurance through Fair office (\$18 – small animal exhibitor; \$35 – large animal exhibitor).
 - E. Primary exhibitors may only enter small animals including covies, poultry, rabbits, waterfowl,

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winged wildlife, pygmy goats, dogs and Open Youth Still Exhibits; and are not eligible for Auction sales, Barn sales, Best of Show, Reserve of Show, Best of Breed or Best Opposite of Breed. No Premiums offered, only participant ribbons. See State Rules # 10.

- F. **STATE RULE** - Juniors who have been 4-H, FFA or Grange project members within 60 days (120 days for horse and market beef) prior to the Fair are not eligible to compete in that project as Independent juniors.

To show livestock as a 4-H, FFA, or Grange member, exhibitors must be a recognized member of their chapter/club at least 60 days immediately preceding the opening day of Fair.

JUNIOR LIVESTOCK

41. **Exhibitors are responsible for all rules printed in the Exhibitor Handbook. Please note that in addition to the general rules printed in this section there are rules specific to each division and class printed throughout the handbook. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with all of the rules before the Fair.**
42. Any exhibitor that cannot show his or her animal during the Fair due to illness, injury or other emergency must submit a letter to the Fair office explaining the circumstances. Letter must be submitted 24 hours in advance. A determination will be decided by the Fair office.
43. **Code of Ethics:** The Fair will enforce a code of ethics for the 2009 Fair. Every exhibitor will be on watch during the ten days of the Fair. Any one violating the code of ethics will face consequences by the Fair management.
44. **Care and Grooming of Animals:** Junior Exhibitors are expected to groom and care for their animal(s) when at the Fair. They shall refrain from accepting active assistance from Adults and Non-Exhibiting youths unless the Junior Exhibitor is actively engaged and the assistance is only for instruction. No professionals allowed.
45. **Grievance Committee:** A grievance committee will be established consisting of two Livestock Committee members of the Fair Board, the Livestock Superintendent, two adult 4-H members and two adult FFA members.
46. **Drug Withdrawal Certificate:** Federal law prohibits the shipment of meat, which is adulterated with drugs or chemicals. Livestock owners must certify that their animals have been withdrawn from drugs and chemicals. All livestock exhibitors and their parents are required to sign the certification form. **Signed and completed drug withdrawal forms must be presented at the scales at the time of weighing in order for the animal to be a part of the Junior Livestock Auction.** Forms are available at the Fair Office. **Animals must be injected at the direction of a veterinarian and in the presence of the Livestock Superintendent. Any animal may be subject to drug testing. A drug withdrawal certificate is required for all market animals, including Rabbit Meat Pens and Poultry Meat Pens.**
47. **Milk Withdrawal Certificate:** All feeder calf exhibitors must certify that their animals have been withdrawn from milk prior to the entry of the Fair. Feeder calf exhibitors and their parents are required to sign the

withdrawal form. Signed and completed withdrawal forms must be presented at the scales at the time of weighing in order for the animal to be part of the Junior Livestock Auction.

48. **Bedding:** All livestock must be bedded in clean wood shavings. The Junior Livestock Foundation will provide shavings for all exhibitors. Please contact your respective club leader for details. Abuse to the system will not be tolerated and may be grounds for discontinuing this program in future years.
49. **Show Uniforms:** All 4-H and FFA members are required to wear their organizations official uniform whenever showing. Please note that this rule also applies to those individuals that will be assisting the exhibitor in the show ring. Sunglasses may only be worn when medically necessary, otherwise, NO SUNGLASSES. Closed-toe shoes must be worn with show uniform.
- FFA:** The official uniform to be worn during livestock shows and auctions consists of white pants, white dress shirt (short or long sleeved) with the official FFA emblem attached to the left pocket and the official FFA necktie. The official FFA jacket is optional; if worn, the shirt emblem is not required. No hats or headgear of any kind is allowed.
- 4-H:** The official uniform to be worn during livestock shows and auctions consists of white shirt, white skirt/pants, the appropriate tie or scarf, and the approved 4-H hat. No other hats will be allowed.
- Independent Juniors:** The uniform to be worn consists of white pants and a white shirt. Exhibitor is not allowed to wear any kind of tie/scarf, emblem or hat.
50. **Entry Forms:** Please see number 9-24 above for rules on entries in general and for livestock specifically.
51. **Registration Papers:** All registration papers for breeding animals must be checked at least 24 hours before the show. Registration papers must be in exhibitor's name. Association recording date or transfer date, if indicated on registration papers is acceptable for determining length of ownership; a bill of sale is not. **Original papers only.** No exhibitor may enter an animal that has been shown by that exhibitor or another person in a market class at any other Fair or livestock show.
52. **Market Beef, Lamb, Goat, Swine, and Holstein Feeder Calf Limits:** Each exhibitor may show two market animals, but not two animals of the same species. Exhibitors will be allowed to pre-register and tag as many animals on tag day, but will only be allowed to register and enter two animals each of two species (paying the appropriate entry fee) on registration day, and will only be allowed to bring one animal of each specie to the Fair.
Market Beef and Holstein Feeders calves are the same specie.
53. **Poultry and Rabbit Meat Pen Limits:** Exhibitors may bring up to two meat pens only.
54. **Market/Breeding Animal Pre-registration:** Exhibitors must pre-register all market and *breeding* animals. This is done by having the market animal ear tagged and the breeding animal marked per specie requirements (i.e., Pygmy Goats and Market Goats – tattooed or microchipped; Pigs - ear notched) by the deadline to purchase animals:
- **Beef & Horse** - 120 consecutive day ownership rule requires purchase and tagging by October 30, 2008;

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- **Goats (All)** - 60 consecutive day ownership rule requires purchase and tagging by December 29, 2008;
 - **Feeder Calves** - 60 consecutive day ownership rule requires purchase and tagging by December 29, 2008;
 - **Sheep and Swine** - 60 consecutive day ownership rule requires purchase and tagging by December 29, 2008;
 - **All Breeding (Beef, Swine, Sheep and Dairy Animals)** - 60 consecutive day ownership rule requires purchase by December 29, 2008;
 - **All Small Animals (Junior Breeding Rabbits, Junior Breeding Poultry, Cavies, Junior Waterfowl and Winged Wildlife)** - 60 consecutive day ownership rule requires purchase by December 29, 2008;
- 4-H leaders and FFA advisors are required to prepare a pre-registration list with the name of the exhibitor, animal species, breed, Fair ear tag number or tattoo (all goats must be tattooed), and physical location of the animal. This list is to be submitted to the Fair office by no later than the next business day following the last day to purchase and tag the animal. Pre-registration forms will be available at the Fair office, online or may be copied from the exhibitor handbook and must be used by all leaders and advisors. No Exceptions.
52. **Ear Tags:** The Fair will be tagging Market Animals and Breeding Animals on a predetermined tag day set by the Livestock Committee. Mandatory tag date will be disclosed on the Fair website and at the Leaders' Meetings. Lost or damaged tags may be replaced by contacting the Livestock Committee and having a new number recorded on the pre-registration list. The Fair will make random inspections of animals and ear tags to verify ownership.
 55. **Weigh-in:** Animals will be weighed at the times listed in each division. No wet, dirty, overly stressed or fatigued animals will be permitted across the scales. In the case of a dispute, exhibitor will exit scale area, scale will be rebalanced, and exhibitor will reenter scale for a re-weigh. All disputes will be handled at the scale at time of weigh-in. Weigh-in Judge/Livestock Superintendent has final say. There will be **NO** changes, coming back or disputing after animal leaves the scale area.
 56. **Animals not meeting weight requirements:** All market animals not meeting weight requirements will be transferred by the Fair into the appropriate division. All animals must be exhibited in this division. These animals may be exhibited in showmanship classes as well. These animals are not eligible for sale, either auction or barn. Animals shall be removed from the grounds on Friday, March 6, 2009 by 12 p.m.
 57. **Animals of the second species:** All exhibitors that have a second species must remove their second animal on Friday, March 6, 2009 by 12 p.m. These animals do not qualify for auction or barn sales. The second species may qualify for Showmanship and Round Robin (large market animals only).
 58. **Disqualifications:** Disqualified animals (small or large animals) are not eligible for auction or barn sales. Large animals shall be released and signed out by the Livestock Superintendent and shall be removed from the grounds on Monday, March 2, 2009 by 12 p.m. Small animals may be removed from the grounds at the discretion of the Small Animal Superintendent
 59. **Stall cards are mandatory.** All animal exhibitors' need to have a stall card above their species. 4-H – Green and White; FFA – Blue and White; Independents – Red and White.
 60. **Brand Inspections:** All Market Beef and Breeding Cattle exhibitors must have proof of ownership with them for presentation to the Brand Inspector. Joint bill of sales are unacceptable; exhibitors must present individual bill of sale. (Calves need *yellow bill of sale* and *transportation slip*; steers need *brand inspection* and *transportation slip*; breeding and dairy cattle need *bill of sale* and *transportation slip*).
 61. **Sifting Committee:** The sifting committee will inspect animals brought onto the fairgrounds. Animals not meeting the appropriate standards as stated in each division will be disqualified and not be eligible for show or sale. **All animals MUST BE SIFTED PRIOR to being placed in barn/pen space. The sifting committee decision is final.**
 62. **Animal Feeding and Watering:** All animals must be fed and watered properly on a daily basis. Failure to feed and water the animals may result in disqualification from the show, the imposition of a \$100 fine and/or the revocation of premium/auction earnings. The livestock superintendent may require exhibitors to take their neglected animals off the grounds and reserves the right to do so.
 63. **Animal Cleanliness and Care:** All animals must be kept clean and be properly cared for by the exhibitor throughout the Fair including tack areas, aisles and bedding (This includes all species: Poultry, Rabbits, Waterfowl, Cavies, Beef, Swine, Sheep, Goats, Dairy and all Breeding Animals) as stated in the State Rules. Manure to be disposed in designated areas from 5:30 - 7:30 a.m. daily. No manure is to be put into trashcans. Failure to care for animals may result in disqualification from the show, the imposition of a \$100 fine and/or the revocation of premiums/auction earnings. The livestock superintendent may require exhibitors to take their neglected animals off the grounds and reserves the right to do so.
 64. **Junior Livestock Auctions:** There will be two livestock auctions during the 2009 California Mid-Winter Fair & Fiesta:
All animals going through the large animal Auction will be tattooed upon leaving the auction ring. All Grand and Reserve Market animals will be terminal sales.
 - **Small Animal Auction** will be on Friday, March 6, 2009, at 6:30 p.m. This auction will feature: Cavies, poultry, market goats, feeder calves, and rabbits.
 - **Large Animals Auction** will be on Saturday, March 7, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. This auction will feature market swine, sheep, and beef.
 65. **Animal Markings:** There will be no writing, graffiti or markings of any kind allowed on the animals during the Fair.
 66. **Barn Awards:** A plaque will be awarded to the FFA Chapter and 4-H Club with the cleanest and best kept barn area and pens at the Fair. Awards shall be for cleanliness and decorating, and will be judged by the Livestock Department. All clubs will group pen assignments by species and not by clubs, including small and large animals. There will be a barn award for large animals and a barn award for small animals. The division between large and small will be the same as the Round Robin division.

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SCORE CARD FOR JUDGING:

Cleanliness.	40%	
Animals		20%
Barn		20%
Discipline	30%	
Conduct of members		15%
Cooperation with barn personnel		15%
Improvement Items (This includes items that will make the barn operate more efficiently.)	30%	
Equipment		10%
Educational		10%
Decorations		10%

67. **Vehicles will be allowed on the grounds for feeding daily from 5:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. only. All vehicles entering the grounds during that time must be removed to the appropriate parking lot by 8:00 am. Vehicles in violation will be towed at owner's expense. Operator must have a valid Drivers License**
68. All live animal exhibits are entered at the owner's risk. The Fair shall take every precaution to insure the safe keeping and handling of all animals on the grounds, however, shall not be responsible in any way for any loss, damage, accident, or death of any exhibit during the Fair or in transit.

PROTEST

As per state rule Section V.

1. The judge's decision on awards cannot be protested.
2. Protests will be considered only if there has been a violation of a State or Local rule.
3. All protests must be presented to the management of the Fair in writing within 24 hours of the alleged violation and must be accompanied by a \$100 deposit (cash, money order, or certified check only). A \$200 deposit is required if the protest relates to violations of State Rules X-XI (Animal Health Rules).
4. Protests and appropriate action are decided by the Fair's Board of Directors or designee.